



National POW/MIA Recognition Day



September 17th, 2010 VA Chapel 1:00pm



Tomah VA Medical Center



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www.dtic.mil/dpmo

Director’s Message

Welcome to our annual POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony. We are honored that you could attend.

Throughout our history, young service men and women have defended our country in time of need. Many risked capture, imprisonment, and their lives to protect us. Since 1979, on National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we have honored the sacrifices and remarkable determination of Veterans captured as prisoners of war. We have also remembered those who remain unaccounted for and we wish their families comfort in knowing that America has not forgotten them.

Some 142,257 American service men and women were captured and interned from World War I through the Gulf War -- 22,641 are still alive. Two of them are here with us today. They endured the uncertainties, deprivations and hardships of hostile captivity.

And for those still missing in action, the anguish of not knowing the fate of a loved one falls to a family member—a father, a mother, a brother or a sister. We cannot imagine a pain deeper than a loved one suffering alone in a faraway place. So for more than three decades, our government has continued to push for full disclosure and accountability of our Veterans missing in action. Today, the United States is working closely with Vietnam, Korea, Russia and other nations to find and identify remains of

all those who did not return. In 2009, the Department of Defense Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command identified the remains of 98 missing military members around the world, including 26 from the Korean War, 19 from the Vietnam War and 53 from World War Two.

At the low point of America’s fortunes during World War II, General Douglas MacArthur promised to keep faith with those Veterans he left behind as the Philippines fell to the Japanese. His famously stated “I shall return.” He kept that promise on October 23, 1944, with the liberation of those islands.

And today, as we honor our ex-POWs and those still missing in action from other wars, I ask you also think of the young men and women who are, right now, sacrificing overseas. They have put their families, their jobs, their lives on hold.

We will not forget them, either.

On behalf of our Veterans, employees, volunteers, family and friends, thank you Veterans for your service. Thank you POWs for the hardships you endured on our behalf.

We are truly grateful!

Jerald D. Molnar
Medical Center Director

In the center of a bronze medallion one and three eighths inches in diameter, an eagle is shown with its wings displayed. Forming a circle around the eagle and following the contour of the medal, barbed wire and bayonet points may be seen. The eagle is the American bald eagle and represents the United States in general and the individual prisoner of war in particular. It is standing "with pride and dignity, continually on the alert for the opportunity to seize hold of beloved freedom.'

The reverse has the inscription "AWARDED TO" around the top and "FOR HONORABLE SERVICE WHILE A PRISONER OF WAR" across the center in three lines with a space between the two inscriptions for engraving the name of the recipient. The shield of the Coat of Arms of the United States is centered on the lower part of the reverse side with the inscription "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" around the bottom of the medal.

Ribbon

The ribbon to the Prisoner of War Medal is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of a central band of black edged in white. The edge stripes of the ribbon are composed of pinstripes of red, white and blue (with the red forming the outer edge of the ribbon). The red, white and blue edge stripes represent the United States; the larger white stripes represent hope, and the black center stripe alludes to the bleakness of confinement as a prisoner of war.

The POW Medal is authorized by Public Law 99-145, section 1128, title 10, United States Code (10 USC 1128), 8 November 1985, and is authorized for any person who, while serving in any capacity with the U.S. Armed Forces, was taken prisoner and held captive after 5 April 1917.

The POW Medal is to be issued only to those U.S. military personnel and other personnel granted creditable U.S. military service who were taken prisoner and held captive.

U.S. and foreign civilians who have been credited with U.S. military service which encompasses the period of captivity are also eligible for the medal. The Secretary of Defense authorized on January 27, 1990, the POW Medal for the Philippine Commonwealth Army and Recognized Guerrilla Unit Veterans who were



POW Medal

held captive between December 7, 1941, and September 26, 1945. DD Form 2510-1 (Prisoner of War Medal Application/Information-Philippine commonwealth Army and Recognized Guerrilla Veterans) was developed as the application for Filipino Veterans who fit this category.

For purposes of this medal, past armed conflicts are defined as World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam Conflict, and Persian Gulf War. Hostages of terrorists and persons detained by governments with which the United States is not engaged actively in armed conflict are not eligible for the medal.

Any person convicted of misconduct or a criminal charge by a U.S. military tribunal, or who receives a less than honorable discharge based upon actions while a prisoner of war, or whose conduct was not in accord with the Code of Conduct, and whose actions are documented by U.S. military records is ineligible for the medal. The Secretary of the Army is the authority for deciding eligibility in such cases.

No more than one POW Medal will be awarded. For subsequent award of the medal, service stars will be awarded and worn on the suspension and service ribbon of the medal. A period of captivity terminates on return to U.S. military control. Escapees who do not return to U.S. military control and are recaptured by an enemy do not begin a new period of captivity for subsequent award of the POW Medal.

The POW Medal may be awarded posthumously.

The primary next of kin of eligible prisoners of war who die in captivity may be issued the POW Medal regardless of the length of stay in captivity.

Personnel officially classified as MIA are not eligible for award of the POW Medal. The POW Medal will only be awarded when the individuals prisoner of war status has been officially confirmed and recognized as such by the Department of the Army. Likewise, the return of remains, in and of itself, does not constitute evidence of confirmed prisoner of war status.

All requests for the POW Medal will be initiated by eligible former POWs, or their next of kin, using a personal letter or **DD form 2510**.



Dan Krehbeil

Dan Krehbeil is a US Army Veteran having served with the 25th Infantry Division in Vietnam. In 1985, he began writing a tribute song for the Highground—a Veterans Memorial Park in Neillsville, Wisconsin. The Highground was dedicated in 1987. It pays tribute to all Veterans and their families. In addition, the

The Highground has evolved to be a memorial park that pays tribute to the dead, and honors the survivors, their service, and their sacrifices. It also pays tribute to the people who supported them when they were away and upon their return. Today, the Highground has tributes to Vietnam Veterans, WWII Veterans, WWI Veterans, Women Veterans, and families that supported and lost loved ones. In addition, The Highground has a Dove Effigy Mound, A United In Service Tribute, a Korean Veterans Memorial, a developmental forest with 4 miles of hiking trails, and a meditation garden.



Highground has a Dove Effigy Mound, A United In Service Tribute, a Korean Veterans Memorial, a developmental forest with 4 miles of hiking trails, and a meditation garden. Mr. Krehbeil has represented the Tomah VA Medical Center at three National Veterans Creative Arts Festivals, Rapids City, South Dakota in 2006, Riverside, California in 2008 and La Crosse, Wisconsin, October 18-24, 2010.

Our Honored POW Guests

Howard M. Jones

Germany

George Marshall

Germany



PRELUDE

*Kirsten Meyer, Music Therapist,
Selections Viola Bach Cello Suites*

INTRODUCTION

INVOCATION

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

"The National Anthem"

WELCOME

"High Ground"

GUEST SPEAKER

POW RECOGNITION

MIA TRIBUTE

BENEDICTION

FIRING SALUTE

RETIRING OF COLORS

TAPS

James Theres, Public Affairs Officer, Master of Ceremonies

Chaplain Ivan Torres

Juneau County Veterans

Tom Muench, MSSW Social Work, POW Coordinator

Tomah High School Quartet & Assembly

Jerald D. Molnar, Medical Center Director

Dan Krehbeil, National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

Mark Johnson, US Olympic Gold Medalist

Wendy Zellmer, Patient Services Assistant

Ruth Benzing, Supervisor, Ambulatory Care & Processing

Tom Muench, MSSW, Social Work Coordinator

Chaplain Ivan Torres

Juneau County Veterans

Juneau County Veterans

Juneau County Veterans

Refreshments in the Midway Immediately following the Ceremony



La Crosse, Wisconsin October 18-25

Performance Gala and Art Exhibit

Viterbo Fine Arts Center 929 Jackson Street

Sunday, October 24, 2010 2 P.M.

For Ticket Information Call:

608-372-1262 or e-mail Jeanie.klinke@va.gov



Mark Johnson

Coach Mark Johnson was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota and raised in Madison, Wisconsin. He played in 669 NHL Hockey games from 1980-1989 after leading the United States Men's Hockey team to a Gold Medal in the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid, NY. He scored two goals in the most famous hockey game ever played when Team USA defeated the Russians 4-3 on February 22, 1980. 2010 is the 30th anniversary of that victory.

He played three years for his father, legendary hockey coach, "Badger" Bob Johnson and helped the Badgers win the NCAA National Championship in 1977. He was the first Badger to be "Rookie of the Year," became the school's second all-time leading scorer and two-time All-American. He would represent the United States in 13 international tournaments and played for the Pittsburgh Penguins, Minnesota North Stars, Hartford Whalers, St. Louis Blues and the New Jersey Red Devils in the National Hockey League.

Johnson is currently the head coach of the UW-Madison women's hockey team and has won three national championships in 2006, 2007 and 2009. In 2010, Coach Johnson led the US Women's Hockey team to a Silver Medal in the Vancouver Olympics. With a career record of 210-39-22 (.815) in his first seven years with the program, Johnson has the most wins of any coach in Wisconsin women's hockey history. In 2002, he was also selected as one of college hockey's "Top 50 Players in 50 Years." He earned a Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology from UW-Madison in 1994. He resides with his wife, Leslie in Verona, Wisconsin. They have five children Doug, Chris, Patrick, Mikayla and Megan. Doug is the head coach for the Wisconsin Ice Spirit Girls' U14 hockey team, Chris is a senior captain for the Augsburg College men's ice hockey team, Patrick is a junior on the UW men's ice hockey team and Mikayla and Megan play hockey for the Wisconsin Ice Spirit Girls' U14 and U12 teams.

Awards and Recognition

2009-Red Smith Award for contributing to sports on and off the field.

2005-NCAA Silver Anniversary Award for accomplishments post student-athlete.

2004-Vince Lombardi Charitable Funds Award of Excellence for volunteer work.

2004-Inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame.

2003-Inducted into the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame.

2002-“Top 50 players in 50 years.”

2001-Wisconsin Hockey Hall of Fame.

2001-Charter member of Wisconsin's W club Hall of Fame.

1999-Inducted into the International Hockey Hall of Fame.

1980 Olympic Team recognition

2008-International Hockey Hall of Fame selected “Miracle on Ice” hockey story of the century.

2004-ESPN declared the “Miracle on Ice” the top sports moment from 1979-2004 (25 years).

2002-Sports Illustrated named the “Miracle on Ice” the Sports Moment of the Century.



Miracle on Ice

February 22, 1980 Team USA 4, Russia 3

